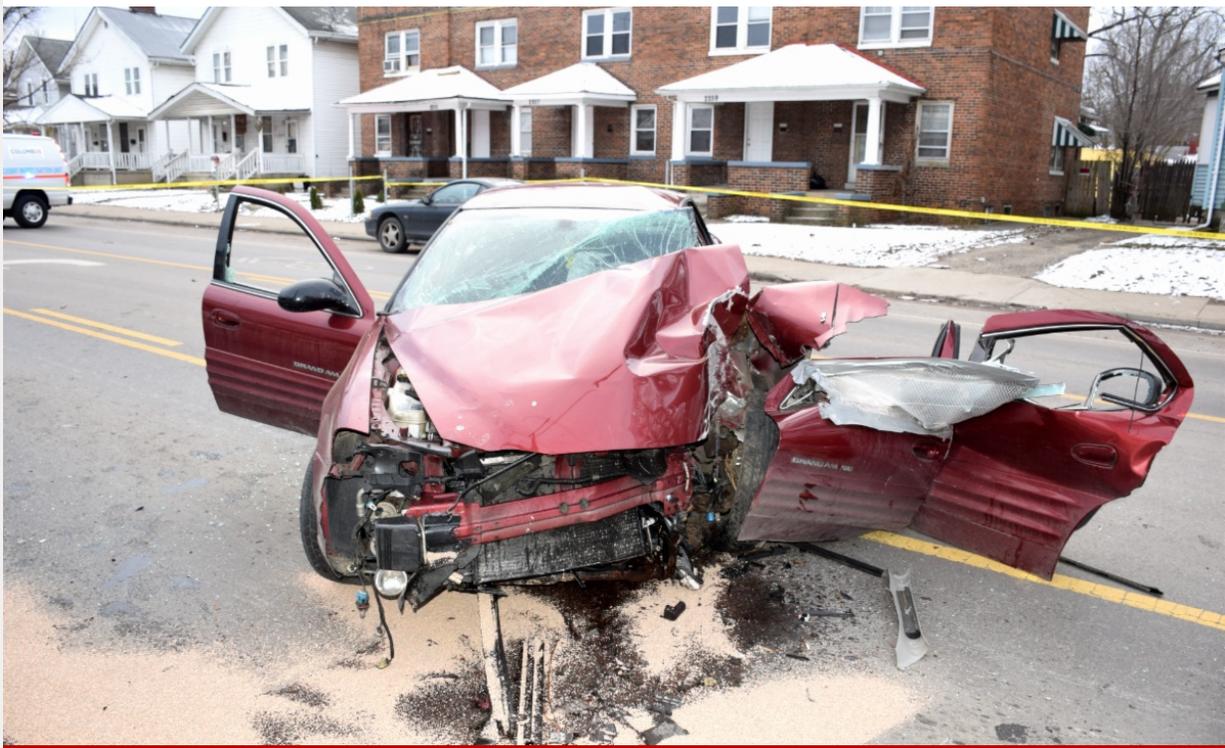


VISIONZERO COLUMBUS

DRIVE SAFE. WALK SAFE. BIKE SAFE.



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS WITH VISION ZERO: TAKE THE PLEDGE

Increasing the safety of drivers, cyclists and pedestrians in Columbus can be achieved through the combined efforts of all who drive, walk and bike in Columbus. Get involved and show your commitment to achieving zero fatal crashes by taking the Vision Zero Columbus Pledge. The pledge outlines the actions you can take to ensure the streets of Columbus are safer for everyone.

[Learn more about the pledge here.](#)



***REMINDER: NEW TRAFFIC LAWS
ARE IN EFFECT IN COLUMBUS***

Gov. Mike DeWine signs bill strengthening distracted driving laws in Ohio



Ohio Gov. DeWine signs new senate bill to prevent distracted driving

Right before the new year, Ohio Senate Bill 288 made texting and driving a primary offense. The bill passed the Ohio General Assembly on December 15th and Governor Mike DeWine signed the bill on Tuesday, January 3rd. The law takes effect in 90 days. But what does this mean?

This means you can be pulled over and fined by law enforcement for texting or typing on your phone (or other electronic communications device like a tablet or computer). This new piece of legislation will help lower the rate of crashes caused by distracted driving.

GPS and navigation is permitted, but you will need to enter in address information before you begin your drive.

Learn more about Senate Bill 288 [here](#).

SPOTLIGHT ON CURB EXTENSIONS

Vision Zero's goal to achieve zero fatal crashes in Columbus is achieved in several ways, one of which is making quality improvements to pedestrian crossings and roadways throughout the city. What are these quality improvements, and how do they apply to you?

Let's take a look at curb extensions, or

bump-outs which are safety features that improve safety for ALL road users.

These sidewalk bump-outs are physical additions to roadways that extend the sidewalk and curb for a short distance into the roadway. These curb extensions reduce the pedestrian crossing distance within the street and offer more visibility to drivers of people walking as they approach the crossing. Furthermore, the width of the street is constricted at these points which encourages people driving to slow down to safe speeds.



Look for curb extensions around town including on High Street in the Short North, E. Mound Street downtown, E Whittier St at Ohio Ave and Champion Ave (to name a few), as well as the most recently installed curb extensions at 14 intersections on Sullivant Avenue. More are planned on Bryden Rd and on Summit Street to ensure added safety for pedestrians when they cross the roads in the future.

Next month's newsletter will share information about how the newly installed crosswalk beacons operate near the OSU campus and how you can use them safely.

END-OF-YEAR UPDATES

With 2022 at an end, we have updated crash statistics for the city of Columbus as we move forward and prepare our 2022 annual report.

Our initial data shows that in 2022, **71 people were killed on Columbus streets**. Of those killed, one-half were motorists, one-third were pedestrians and two-thirds of the crashes were on the High Injury Network.

Look for more information from the 2022 Annual Report (coming soon).

STAY INFORMED

Interested in what's happening with Vision Zero? Stay informed by following us on social media and look for more valuable insights into driver and pedestrian safety in next month's newsletter.



